Indrajit Gupta Committee Report on State Funding of Elections

1057. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAMCHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations of the Indrajit Gupta Committee Report on State funding of elections accepted by Government; and

(b) by when the recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Committee on State Funding of Elections (Indrajit Gupta Committee) have been circulated among the State Government/Union Territories and other concerned authorities for their view/comments thereon. The recommendations and the reactions thereon may be discussed with political parties as part of the process of reform of electoral laws before any decision is taken by the Government in respect of their implementation.

Issue of Photo-Identity Cards to Voters

†1058. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Election Commission had issued orders in 1994-95 to Chief Electoral Officers of all the States to issue photo-identity cards to the voters of their States;

(b) if so, the total number of voters provided with the photo-identity cards in the country, till the end of December, 2000, State-wise; and

(c) by when photo-identity cards will be issued to all the voters of the country and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon alongwith the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir. The Election Commission has informed that the scheme of issue of photo identity cards to electors was introduced in the year 1993.

(b) A Statement containing status report on progress of the scheme is attached (*See* below).

†Original notice of Question was received in Hindi.